

Guidelines Regarding Sick Children

Children should stay home with a parent/guardian if the child :

1. Has a temperature over 100.
 2. Has conjunctivitis, which is an eye infection commonly referred to as pink eye. The eye is generally red with some burning and there is thick yellow drainage.
 3. Has bronchitis and/or croup, which may occur together, but more often separately. These can begin with hoarseness, cough, and a slight elevation in temperature. The cough may be dry and painful, but it may gradually become more productive. In croup, there is a loud noise as the child breathes in and there may be increased difficulty in breathing.
 4. Has rashes that have not been diagnosed by a physician. We urge you to have rashes diagnosed. If a rash is diagnosed as a result of an infection, the physician must assure us that the rash is no longer contagious before your child can return.
 5. Has impetigo of the skin, which shows up as red pimples that eventually become small vesicles surrounded by a reddened area. When the blisters break, the surface is raw and weeping. The lesions occur in moist areas of the body such as creases of the neck, groin, underarm, face, hands, or edge of the diaper area. When your child may return is dependent on the type of medication your physician has prescribed.
 6. Has diarrhea (watery or greenish bowel movements, which look different and are much more frequent than usual). A child should not return until three days have lapsed since the onset of the diarrhea, or until the diarrhea has ceased, whichever is the greater period of time.
 7. Is vomiting (more than the usual "spitting up" as in the case of an infant).
 8. Has a severe cold with fever, sneezing, and nose drainage.
 9. Seems really sick without obvious symptoms. In this case, a child may look and act different. There may be unusual paleness, irritability, unusual tiredness, or lack of interest.
 10. Has a contagious disease. If a doctor places a child on an antibiotic, the child should not return until they have had medication for at least 24 hours or until they are no longer contagious.
- If a child has a slight fever (less than 100), cold, diaper rash, prickly heat, a loose bowel movement, or diarrhea resulting from diet or medication, they can be brought to childcare.
 - If there is something your are unable to do to care for your child, please let staff or your doctor know.
 - Children staying home sick from school / childcare should be resting quickly in their rooms.

